

their skills and talents and learn additional skills in preparation for transitioning to civilian careers. Their first intern, Lieutenant John Edmonston, checked in on October 1, will work in Combat Systems Division on October 12.

I am very proud of the work being done at the shipyard and are adopting the best practices pioneered by Captain Whitney and his team across our entire Wounded Warrior program. I appreciate all you do for our great Nation and the tremendous support you provide to the U.S. Navy. Should you have any questions or desire to discuss NAVSEA efforts to employ and support Veterans, please do not hesitate to call.

Sincerely,

K. M. McCoy,
Vice Admiral, U.S. Navy.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 2010

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Madam Speaker, on Monday, November 15th, I was unable to cast my votes on S. 3689, H. Res. 1713, and H. Con. Res. 328 and wish the record to reflect my intentions had I been able to vote. Last night I was meeting with a constituent group in Savoy, Illinois and was unable to travel to Washington, DC in time for the votes.

Had I been present on Rollcall No. 566 on suspending the rules and passing S. 3689, To clarify, improve, and correct the laws relating to copyrights, I would have voted Aye.

Had I been present on Rollcall No. 567 on suspending the rules and passing H. Res. 1713, Recognizing the 50th anniversary of Ruby Bridges desegregating a previously all-White public elementary school, I would have voted Aye.

Had I been present on Rollcall No. 568 on suspending the rules and passing H. Con. Res. 328, Expressing the sense of the Congress regarding the successful and substantial contributions of the amendments to the patent and trademark laws that were initially enacted in 1980 by Public Law 96-517 (commonly referred to as the Bayh-Dole Act) on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of its enactment, I would have voted Aye.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF CHIEF PETTY OFFICER GARY M. WHITEHEAD AND HIS WIFE BARBARA WHITEHEAD

HON. JOE DONNELLY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 2010

Mr. DONNELLY of Indiana. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the service of Chief Petty Officer Gary M. Whitehead and his wife Barbara, and the great work done, together with Debi Copeland, on behalf of Hoosier veterans. At the end of this year, Gary and Barbara will be retiring after serving 24 consecutive years in Elkhart County's Veterans Service Office. Gary is a native son of Elkhart County, having been born and raised in Goshen, Indiana. In 1965, a year after graduating from Goshen High School, Gary enlisted in the

United States Navy, entering active duty shortly thereafter in early 1966. During his Naval career, Gary served in a variety of capacities including: three years on the USS *Allen M. Sumner*, which included a deployment to Vietnam; as a personnel officer for the Underwater Demolition Team Twelve, who also assisted in commissioning the first Navy F-14 Fighter Squadron; as the Training Coordinator for the Navy's Diving Schools; and another three years on the USS *Patterson* before finally retiring from the Indianapolis Navy Recruiting District in July 1986.

Gary joined the Elkhart County Veterans Office in August 1986, immediately after retiring from the Navy. He has been the Elkhart County Veterans Service Officer since January 1988, and is retiring this year. He has been involved in representing and advancing veterans' issues within the community and throughout the state, having served on a variety of committees. Gary was instrumental in efforts to establish the VA Community-Based Outpatient Clinic in Goshen. He also served as a distinguished member of my Veterans Advisory Committee for the past four years.

Gary's wife of 42 years, Barbara, whom he met on a blind date and married six months later, stood by his side throughout his Naval career and has worked alongside him in the Elkhart County Veterans Office since 1986. Barbara has been instrumental in the great work their Office has done on behalf of veterans these past 24 years. They have three children, Stephanie, Douglas and Scott, and six grandchildren. Barbara will be joining Gary in well-earned retirement.

Another key member of Gary's team who has contributed meaningfully to the office's work since 1996 is Debi Copeland, who serves as the office's secretary. Together, these three have provided dedicated service, representation, advocacy, counsel, and friendship to the veterans of Elkhart County.

It is my privilege to thank Gary for his 20 years of service to the United States Navy, and, along with his wife Barbara and their friend Debi, for their office's service these past 24 years to the veterans of Elkhart County.

IN HONOR AND RECOGNITION OF
MEDWISH INTERNATIONAL OF
CLEVELAND, OHIO

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 2010

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of the staff and volunteers of MedWish International of Cleveland, Ohio, a nonprofit organization that specializes in recovering and recycling donated medical supplies. Those supplies are then used to provide critically needed medical care in developing countries around the world.

For the past fourteen years, medical facilities in the Cleveland community have donated medical supplies and equipment to MedWish International. These supplies have then been distributed to medical care organizations and volunteer medical teams around the world. MedWish supplies are often lifesaving and they significantly improve the quality of health care provided within impoverished regions around the world. MedWish supplies and equipment are never sold.

Locally, recovery and recycling of unused medical supplies is good for the environment, significantly reducing the amount of solid waste deposited in local landfills. In addition, MedWish International also serves as an excellent point of reference for health care professionals and nonprofit medical organizations committed to learning more about the great need for quality medical care, globally and locally.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honor of MedWish International of Cleveland, Ohio, whose work on behalf of recovering, recycling and distributing donated medical supplies and equipment for lifesaving medical procedures and treatment brings hope and healing to individuals around the world.

A TRIBUTE TO RANSON AND LULA SMITH ON THE OCCASION OF THEIR 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 2010

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Ranson and Lula Smith on the occasion of their 50th Anniversary.

Ranson and Lula both came to Brooklyn early in their lives. Through the past several decades, they have made numerous contributions to the Brooklyn community.

For more than 20 years, Ranson and Lula have been members of the 500 Block MacDonough Street Association. Ranson currently serves as the Block Association President, and Lula currently serves as secretary. Mr. and Mrs. Smith are also members of the 81st Precinct Community Council.

After 21 years of service, Ranson retired from the New York City Department of Sanitation in 1990. He has been a community activist for many years. In 1994 he was awarded by Assemblyman William Boyland and the 55th Assembly District for his work in the community. He received the Exemplary Service Award from the Unity Democratic Club in 1996. In 2006, he received a Community Service Award from the Key Women of America Brooklyn Chapter.

Lula retired from the New York City Department of Citywide Administrative Services after twenty years of service. She received an award for her service to the Department.

Mr. and Mrs. Smith have been long time members of Zion Baptist Church, and have been actively involved in numerous ministries. Lula is particularly involved in the Teaching Ministry, and has received a Gold Star Diploma in Christian Leadership Education from the Progressive National Baptist Convention. Additionally, she received an award for her outstanding service to the New York Progressive Baptist State Convention Congress, which she has served for over 20 years. Lula has also served on the Board of Managers of the Brooklyn Sunday School Union, and serves as a Girl Scout Committee Person for Zion's Girl Scouts.

Ranson and Lula have four children, twelve grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. They will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on November 27, 2010.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the lives of Ranson and Lula Smith.